

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 MCT-01  
ACDA-07 SY-05 DHA-02 /128 W  
-----114195 200544Z /15

R 200507Z AUG 77  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4977  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 2675

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, UN, GW  
SUBJ: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES

SUMMARY: SCHEDULED AM MEETING AUGUST 19 WAS NEVER CALLED TO ORDER OR ADJOURNED, BUT THERE WAS A ONE-HOUR NON-MEETING IN WHICH US AND OTHER WEO'S ATTEMPTED WITHOUT SUCCESS TO FORCE RAPPORTEUR (BYELORUSSIA) TO PROVIDE COMMITTEE NOT ONLY WITH COMMITTEE REPORT PREPARED BY RAPPORTEUR BUT ALSO REPORT PREPARED BY SECRETARIAT. AT PM MEETING, NEGOTIATING GROUP SCRAPPED BYELORUSSIAN DRAFT, DECIDED NOT TO SEEK SECRETARIAT DRAFT AND INSTEAD WORKED ON BASIS OF ONE PARAGRAPH SUMMARY OF DEBATE PREPARED BY FRG. CONSENSUS WAS ACHIEVED ON THE ONE PARAGRAPH SUMMARY, ALTHOUGH US, UK, AND CANADA BELIEVE FRG COULD HAVE OBTAINED SIGNIFICANTLY MORE ADVANTAGEOUS PARAGRAPH. CONSENSUS WAS ALSO ACHIEVED ON RECOMMENDATION THAT GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECONVENE THE COMMITTEE IN 1978. SOVIETS CONTINUED MALEVOLENT BEHAVIOR TO THE END. END SUMMARY.

1. COMMITTEE WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET AM AUGUST 19 TO BEGIN CONSIDERATION OF SUMMARY OF DEBATE TO BE INCLUDED IN COMMITTEE  
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REPORT. UK KNEW FROM SOURCES IN SECRETARIAT THAT SECRETARIAT HAD PREPARED A 17-PAGE SUMMARY OF THE DEBATE WHICH ADEQUATELY REFLECTED THE ATTENTION GIVEN TO VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE FRG DRAFT CONVENTION AND FACT IT WAS BASIS FOR COMMITTEE'S WORK. BEFORE MEETING, RAPPORTEUR INDICATED THAT HE HAD PREPARED HIS OWN SUMMARY OF DEBATE, BUT THAT IT WAS NOT YET AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION.

2. IN ENSUING THREE HOURS, FRG NEGOTIATED WITHOUT SUCCESS WITH ALGERIA AND TANZANIA ON CONCLUSION OF WORK OF COMMITTEE.

3. AT 1 PM CHAIRMAN (NICARAGUA) MADE STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT COMMITTEE WOULD NOT HOLD AN AM MEETING. CANADA THEN INTERVENED TO ASK THAT RAPPORTEUR RELEASE THE SECRETARIAT PAPER. RAPPORTEUR REPLIED THAT HE HAD HIS OWN REPORT BUT THAT HE WOULD RELEASE OTHER DOCUMENTS IF COMMITTEE SO DECIDED. KENYA AND TANZANIA SAID THAT THEY WANTED THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT IMMEDIATELY SO THAT IT COULD BE READ BEFORE PM MEETING. UK, US AND NETHERLANDS AGAIN ASKED FOR SECRETARIAT PAPER, BUT RAPPORTEUR CONTINUED TO CONDITION ITS RELEASE ON FORMAL DECISION OF COMMITTEE.

4. RAPPORTEUR THEN RECEIVED FROM SECRETARIAT TRANSLATIONS AND COPIES OF HIS SUMMARY, WHICH RAPPORTEUR THEN ORDERED DISTRIBUTED. AFTER DISTRIBUTION, RAPPORTEUR SAID THAT THERE WAS A PLACE FOR CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH IN REPORT IF COMMITTEE COULD AGREE ON ONE BUT IF NOT HE WOULD CONCLUDE THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD NOT ACHIEVED ANYTHING. THE LAST REMARK PROMPTED A POINT OF ORDER FROM US TO EFFECT THAT WE WERE NOT INTERESTED IN HEARING THE RAPPORTEUR DISCUSS HYPOTHETICAL SITUATIONS. RAPPORTEUR RESUMED DISCUSSION OF HIS PAPER BUT WITHOUT FURTHER REFERENCE TO CONCLUDING CONFIDENTIAL

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PARAGRAPHS. AFTER RAPPORTEUR FINISHED STATEMENT, CHAIRMAN DECLARED NON-MEETING WAS OVER.

5. SUMMARY PREPARED BY RAPPORTEUR FOR INCLUSION IN REPORT WAS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE TO WEO'S, MEXICO AND FEW OTHERS. SUMMARY RESURRECTED USE OF WORD "INNOCENT", WAS UNBALANCED IN DISCUSSION OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, AND FAILED TO EVEN HINT AT CENTRAL ROLE OF FRG DRAFT IN COMMITTEE WORK.

6. BEFORE PM MEETING, FRG BEGAN CONSULTATIONS WITH ALGERIA AND TANZANIA ON BASIS THAT SUMMARY PREPARED BY RAPPORTEUR WOULD NOT BE INSISTED UPON, THAT SECRETARIAT PAPER WOULD NOT BE REQUESTED, AND THAT REPORT WOULD CONCLUDE WITH SHORT PARAGRAPH AND RECOMMENDATION THAT COMMITTEE BE RECONVENED NEXT YEAR.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 2675

7. TEXT OF PARAGRAPH WHICH FRG NEGOTIATED WITH OTHERS FOLLOWS:

"MOST DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED THEIR GRATIFICATION AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE FRG, WHICH WAS FOLLOWED UP BY A SET OF DRAFT ARTICLES SUBMITTED BY THE FRG IN DOCUMENT L.3 AS WELL AS OTHER PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY OTHER DELEGATIONS IN DOCUMENTS L.4 TO L.14 AND L.16. THE GENERAL DEBATE AS WELL AS VARIOUS PROPOSALS REVEALED HOWEVER CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE OF VIEW CONCERNING THE SCOPE AND/OR DEFINITION IN THE CONVENTION, ISSUES WHICH SOME DELEGATIONS ARGUED SHOULD BE RESOLVED AT AN EARLY STAGE OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK. NEVERTHELESS, THERE WAS A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES, DURING THE DEBATE IN THE COMMITTEE, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT SOME PROGRESS WAS MADE AND THAT THE SPIRIT OF DISCUSSION HAD SHOWN A GENUINE WILLINGNESS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE THE WORK."

8. UK AND US THOUGHT FRG COULD HAVE ACHIEVED A REFLECTION IN THE PARAGRAPH OF THE CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO SPECIFIC PARTS OF THE FRG DRAFT, SUCH AS EXTRADITION, JURISDICTION, COOPERATION, ETC., ESPECIALLY SINCE WE OBTAINED SUPPORT OF VARIOUS DELEGATIONS INCLUDING MEXICO, KENYA AND JORDAN FOR SUCH LANGUAGE. HOWEVER, FRG THOUGHT THAT PUSHING THESE ISSUES COULD LEAD TO  
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OPPOSITION TO RESOLUTION RECONVENING THE COMMITTEE AND THEY THEREFORE URGED UK AND US TO ACCEPT THE ABOVE PARAGRAPH. WE BOTH DEFERRED TO THEIR PREFERENCE AND PARAGRAPH WAS ACCEPTED BY CONSENSUS AS ONLY SUBSTANTIVE PARAGRAPH IN REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

9. COMMITTEE ALSO DECIDED BY CONSENSUS ON RESOLUTION ASKING FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO RECONVENE THE COMMITTEE IN 1978. AFTER ADOPTION BY CONSENSUS BYKOV (USSR) INTERVENED TO SAY USSR RESERVED ITS VIEW THAT RESOLUTION EXCEEDED COMMITTEE'S MANDATE. TEXT POUNCHED STOWE (L/UNA).

10. REPORT WILL ALSO APPEND SUMMARY RECORDS OF DEBATE AND ALL WORKING PAPERS SUBMITTED BY DELEGATIONS.

11. FRG SEEMED RELEAVED WITH OVERALL RESULT. IN GENERAL WE AGREE THAT SESSION HAD ITS PRODUCTIVE ASPECTS ALTHOUGH WE FEEL THAT FRG COULD HAVE ACHIEVED A BETTER COMMITTEE REPORT IF THEY HAD PRESSED FOR IT, ALTHOUGH THIS WOULD OF COURSE HAVE ENTAILED SOME RISK.

12. ON BALANCE WE BELIEVE EFFORT TO GET A HOSTAGES CONVENTION IS NO HARDER AFTER COMMITTEE SESSION THAN BEFORE AND IT MAY BE SOMEWHAT EASIER IN LIGHT OF FACT ARABS AND RADICAL AFRICANS HAVE NOT MOUNTED A WRECKING OPERATION. FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, HOWEVER, REMAINS AND UNLESS ARABS AND RADICAL AFRICANS CAN BE PERSUADED EXCLUSION OF ARMED CONFLICTS FROM COVERAGE OF CONVENTION WILL DO THEM NO HARM, WE SEE LITTLE BASIS FOR OPTIMISM IN NEAR FUTURE.

13. ONE OF THE MORE NOTEWORTHY ASPECTS OF THE SESSION WAS THE SINGULARLY MALEVOLENT CONDUCT OF THE SOVIET BLOC. THEY DEMONSTRATED THEIR CONTEMPT FOR THE EXERCISE BY REFUSING TO FILL ONE OF THE SEATS ASSIGNED TO THE EE GROUP; THEY PUT BYELORUSSIA

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FORWARD AS EE CANDIDATE FOR RAPPORTEUR; THEY STIRRED UP PRO-CEDURAL CONTROVERSY IF NO ONE ELSE DID AND SUPPORTED EVERY ALGERIAN EFFORT TO SAME END; THEY REFUSED TO DISCUSS ANY OF THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES BEYOND MOUTHING SLOGANS ABOUT NLM'S; THE BYELORUSSIAN RAPPORTEUR DID ALL THAT HE COULD TO PRODUCE A BIASED REPORT AND SUPPRESS THE SECRETARIAT DRAFT. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER TAKING THIS CONDUCT UP WITH SOVIETS NEXT TIME WE DISCUSS UN MATTERS.  
LEONARD

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## Message Attributes

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